

NOTICE OF OPENING FOR CITY COUNCIL POSITION

The City of Vernonia has an opening for City Councilor

This position is a term position until December, 2012. An application for the position and related information for the position is on the City Web Page at vernonia-or.gov or you may pick up an application at Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street. The application and all related forms must be properly completed and returned to the City Recorder no later than June 20, 2011 by 1:00 pm. Interviews will be conducted by the council and the position will be appointed by a majority vote of the City Council.

VERNONIA CHARTER

City Charter Chapter III

Section 7. Council. The council consists of a mayor and four councilors nominated and elected from the City at large or, in case of one or more vacancies in the council, the council members whose offices are not vacant.

City Charter Chapter IV Council

Section 20. Vacancies: Filling. A vacancy in an elective office shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the council. The appointee's term of office runs from appointment and until expiration of the term of the predecessor who has left the office vacant. During a council member's disability to serve on the council or during a member's absence from the City, a majority of the other council members may by appointment fill the vacancy pro tem.

City Charter Chapter VI Personnel

Section 22. Qualifications.

(1) An elective city officer shall be a qualified elector under the state constitution and shall have resided in the City during the twelve (12) months immediately before being elected or appointed to the office. In this subsection "City" means area inside the City limits at the time of the election or appointment.

APPLICATION COUNCIL VACANCY

Position: Councilor

Name of Candidate

Residence Address (street, city, state, zip) no post office box numbers

Phone No. _____ Email _____

Occupation (present employment – paid or unpaid):

Occupational background (previous employment-paid or unpaid):

Educational background (schools attended; last grade completed degrees, if any):

Prior Governmental experience (elected or appointed)

Why are you applying for this vacancy?

Must be returned to Vernonia City Hall no later than 1:00, Friday, June 20, 2011.

QUESTIONS FOR APPLICANT

1. Are you a registered voter? Yes _____ No _____
2. Do you live within the City Limits? _____ If yes, for how long? _____
3. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?
4. Why would you like to serve on the Vernonia City Council?
5. What are your strengths and weaknesses?
6. In your opinion, what are the three biggest issues facing our community?
7. What experience do you bring that would be of value in your role as a City Councilor?
8. Are you willing to attend training to learn more about leadership and municipal government?

Chapter III of the Vernonia Charter

Form of Government

Section 7 Council. The Council consists of a Mayor and four Councilors nominated and elected from the City at large or, in case of one or more vacancies in the council, the council members whose offices are not vacant.

Section 8 Councilors. The term of office of a councilor in office when this charter is adopted is the term of office for which the councilor has been elected before adoption of the charter (or is elected at the time of the adoption). At each general election after the adoption, two councilors shall be elected, each for a four-year term.

Section 9 Mayor The term of office of the mayor in office when this charter is adopted continues until the beginning of the first odd-numbered year after that time. At each subsequent general election, a mayor shall be elected for a two-year term.

Section 10. Terms of Office The term of office of an elective officer who is elected at a general election begins at the first council meeting of the year immediately after the election and continues until the successor to the office assumes the office.

Section 11. Appointive Offices A majority of the council may:

- (1) Create, abolish, and combine appointive City offices, and
- (2) Except as the majority prescribes otherwise, fill such offices by appointment and vacate them by removal

Chapter IV Council

Section 12 Rules The council shall prescribe rules to govern its meetings and proceedings.

Section 13. Meetings. The council shall meet in the City regularly at least once a month at a time and place designated by council's rules, and may meet at other times in accordance with council rules.

Section 15 Record of Proceedings A record of council proceedings shall be kept and authenticated in a manner prescribed by council

Section 16 Mayor's functions at Council Meetings

- (1) When present at council meetings the mayor shall:
 - (a) Preside over deliberations of the council,
 - (b) Preserve order,
 - (c) Enforce council rules, and
 - (d) Determine the order of business under the rules.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, the mayor may temporarily cease to chair a council meeting and delegate the functions described in subsection (1) to another council member.
- (3) The mayor is a voting member of the council

Section 17 Council Present

- (1) At its first meeting after this charter takes effect and its first meeting of each odd-numbered year, the council shall appoint a president from its councilors.
- (2) Except in voting on questions before the council, the president shall function as mayor when the mayor is:
 - (a) Absent from a council meeting, or
 - (b) Unable to function as mayor.

Section 18 Vote Required Except as sections 11, 14, 20 and 31 of this charter prescribe otherwise, the express concurrence of a majority of the council members present and constituting a quorum is necessary to decide affirmatively a question before the council.

Section 19 Vacancies: Occurrence The office of a member of the council becomes vacant:

- (1) Upon the incumbent's:
 - (a) Death,
 - (b) Adjudicated incompetence, or
 - (c) Recall from the office, or
- (2) Upon declaration by the council of the vacancy in case of the incumbent's:
 - (a) Failure, following election or appointment to the office, to qualify for the office within ten days after the time for term of office to begin,
 - (b) Absence from the city for 30 days without the council's consent or from all meetings of the council within a 60 day period,
 - (c) Ceasing to reside in the City,
 - (d) Ceasing to be a qualified elector under state law,
 - (e) Conviction of a public offense punishable by loss of liberty, or
 - (f) Resignation from the office.

Section 20 Vacancies: filling. A vacancy in an elective office shall be filled by appointment by a majority of the council. The appointee's term of office runs from appointment and until expiration of the term of the predecessor who has left the office vacant. During a council member's disability to serve on the council or during a member's absence from the City, a majority of the other council members may by appointment fill the vacancy pro tem.

Chapter V Powers and Duties of Officers

Section 21. Mayor The mayor shall appoint:

- (1) Members of committees established by council rules, and
- (2) Other persons required by the council to be so appointed.

Chapter VI Personnel

Section 22 Qualifications.

- (1) An elective city officer shall be a qualified elector under the state constitution and shall have resided in the City during the 12 months immediately before being elected or appointed to the office. In this subsection "City" means area inside the City limits at the time of the election or appointment.
- (2) No person may be a candidate at a single election for more than one elective City Office.

- (3) An elective officer may be employed in a City position that is substantially volunteer in nature. Whether the position is so may be decided by the council.
- (4.) The council is the final judge of the election and qualifications of its members.
- (5) The qualifications of appointive officers of the City are whatever the council prescribes or authorizes.

Section 23 Compensation The council shall prescribe the compensation of City officers. The council may prescribe a plan for reimbursing city personnel for expenses that they incur in serving the City.

Section 24 Merit System Subject to all collective bargaining agreements between the City and one or more groups of its employees, the council shall prescribe rules governing recruitment, selection, promotion, transfer, demotion, suspension, layoff, and dismissal of City employees, all of which shall be based on merit and fitness.

Section 25 Oath Before assuming City office, an officer shall take an oath or shall affirm that he or she will faithfully perform the duties of the office and support the constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Oregon.

Section 26 Regulation of Elections Except as this charter provides otherwise and as the council provides otherwise by ordinances relating to elections, the general laws of the State shall apply to the conduct of all City Elections, recounts of the returns and contests.

Section 27 Tie Votes In the event of a tie vote for candidates for an elective office the successful candidate shall be determined by a public drawing of lots in a manner prescribed by council.

Section 28 Nominations A person may be nominated in a manner prescribed by general ordinance to run for an elective office of the City.

Section 29 Initiative and Referendum

(1) Date of Election

If an initiative or referendum petition contains the required number of verified signatures, a measure election shall be held at the next regular biennial election, unless an earlier election date is approved by the council.

(2) Effective Date of Measures

A measure submitted to the electors shall take effect when approved by a majority of the electors voting upon it, unless the measure provides for another effective date. A measure shall have no effect while it is subject to a referendum

(3) Conflicting Measures

When there is a conflict between measures approved by the electors at an election, the measure receiving the greater number of affirmative votes shall prevail

(4) Charter Amendments

Any measure to amend, repeal or replace the charter must receive at least 60 percent of the votes cast in order to be approved by the electors.

Taken from Vernonia Charter Dated January 1, 1998 for elections of office information only. This is not the complete Charter. Footnotes not included